

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 23, and 24 are pending. Claims 23 and 24 are allowed. Claim 1 is objected to and claims 1, 3, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Applicants address each of these rejections as follows.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1, 3, and 5 have been canceled without prejudice. This amendment was solely made to expedite prosecution and Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled subject matter in this or in a continuing application. No new matter has been added by the present amendment.

Claim Objections and Rejections

All claims that are objected to or rejected have been canceled. The Office indicated that the remaining claims, claims 23 and 24, are allowed. As such, the bases for objection and rejection set forth in the present Office Action are moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and this action is hereby respectfully requested.

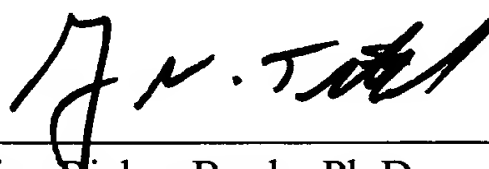
Enclosed are a Petition to extend the period for replying to the final Office Action for three (3) months, to and including September 22, 2005, and a check in payment of the required extension fee.

Also enclosed is a Notice of Appeal in which Applicants appeal the final rejection of claims 1, 3, and 5.

If there are any additional charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

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